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Personal Transportation Devices

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Scope

The University of Nebraska at Kearney (University) is committed to creating a sustainable and safe campus. As part of these efforts, University regulates the use of Personal Transportation Devices (transportation devices) on University property. This policy applies to devices owned or rented by users.

Adherence to this policy is the responsibility of all members of the University community—staff, faculty, students, University affiliates, contractors and visitors to campus are expected to comply.

Policy Statement

This policy establishes a procedure for the operation and use of non-traditional means of transportation including but not limited to Bicycles, Mopeds, Skateboards, Scooters, Electric Scooters, skates (roller/in-line), unicycles, tricycles and battery-operated personal mobility devices. Other similar means of transportation that may be made available in the future shall also be included.

Reason for Policy

This policy provides direction to the University of Nebraska at Kearney community regarding the use of various types and methods of transportation. With an increased presence of various mobility devices on campus, there is also the possibility for conflicts and safety issues. This policy strives for a balance in supporting alternative means of transportation and pedestrian safety by setting a common foundation of rules and expectations on device usage.

Procedures

ADA Accommodations

Individuals with disabilities who have a reasonable accommodation for a documented need are permitted to use motorized devices on campus Sidewalks and in campus buildings. More information is available at <http://www.unk.edu/about/compliance/fmlaada/index.php>.

Riding a Personal Transportation Device

- Transportation devices may not be used inside of any University buildings and facilities – including academic buildings and residence halls
- University employees may not be reimbursed for any transportation device used while conducting University business on University property
- Riders of transportation devices must comply with all applicable laws including traffic control devices
- Pedestrians and riders are required to be aware of and obey any campus signage for the safety of all
- Transportation devices should be operated at a low speed on campus at all times, especially in the presence of pedestrians, and should adapt speed according to weather and surface conditions and construction activity
- Rider must be mindful of his or her surroundings as riders may not be seen or heard
- Rider should always drive cautiously
- Pedestrians determine the rate of traffic flow; riders must move with the flow of traffic without disrupting it, which may necessitate Dismounting
- Pedestrians have the right of way and transportation devices are required to yield to pedestrian traffic
- Riders shall not come within less than three (3) feet of pedestrians while riding; if riders cannot pass pedestrians while maintaining the three feet minimum distance, they shall Dismount and walk to their destination or walk to a less-busy path to resume riding; the requirement is in effect throughout campus and at all hours of all days
- When passing a pedestrian(s) or another rider(s), rider shall announce their presence and their intent to pass the pedestrian(s) or rider(s) on the left side of the Sidewalk
- Transportation devices are for a single rider at one time
- Transportation devices should be ridden on Sidewalks; transportation devices are not permissible on streets with the exception of street crossings/walkways

- While in motion, all wheels (or one foot in the case of rollerblades and roller-skates) are to be in contact with the ground, and only the ground, at all times

Safety

- University recommends that riders not wear headphones or earbuds and not use mobile phones and other electronics for any reason which may impose distractions which put at risk the safe operation of the transportation device
- Transportation devices may not be charged on University property including residence halls
- Individuals will be held personally responsible for any damage caused to University property as a result of the operation of a transportation device on University property
- Individuals assume the risk of personal injury and death and will be held responsible for any injuries to themselves or others as a result of the violation of this Policy or the improper operation of any transportation device on University property
- It is recommended that riders wear helmets and ensure that their devices have appropriate rear and side reflective devices; headlights and headlamps should be used between sunset and sunrise or as conditions (weather) necessitate
- Do not operate a transportation device while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- When campus Sidewalks create a potential hazard to pedestrians walking on the same Sidewalk with transportation devices, riders shall Dismount and walk to their destination or walk to a less-busy Sidewalk to resume riding
- Make sure that all devices and safety equipment are in proper working condition

Parking

- Transportation devices shall be parked at designated Bicycle racks and shall not restrict the access to any other transportation devices; chaining or securing a transportation device to any object or structure other than a Bicycle rack is prohibited – this includes trees, railings and light poles
- Transportation devices may not be parked in University parking lots and on University-owned streets
- Transportation devices may not be parked on Sidewalks, block pedestrian pathways, ADA access or vehicle parking spaces, inside buildings, building entrances or impede the work of the University (e.g., mowing or snow removal)
- Transportation devices must not be parked in automobile parking spaces, on lawn areas, shrub or flowerbeds, streets, driveways, handicap ramps, on steps or in any building
- Transportation devices are not permitted to be stored in any University building lobbies, stairwells, corridors and ramps inside or outside of the building
- Transportation devices may not be parked in such a manner to hinder the safe flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic or block access to fire hydrants or emergency phones

Trick or Stunt Riding

- Trick or stunt riding of such devices on campus is prohibited
- Trick and stunt activities include performing acrobatic stunts of any type
- Prohibited riding includes using any bench, table, stair or similar object as a platform for trick or stunt activities

Academic Year

- All Personal Transportation Devices owned by an individual must be removed from campus at the end of the spring semester or at the end of a housing contract. Personal Transportation Devices left on University property for more than 5 days following spring graduation will be considered abandoned property. These devices will be impounded and disposed of.

Personal Transportation Devices

Permissible Personal Transportation Devices include the following:

- Motorized Scooters;
- Bicycles, unicycles, tricycles, and similar devices regardless of the number of wheels;
- Class 1 or 2 electric Bicycles;
- Skates, including In-line Skates, rollerblades and Roller Skates; and
- Skateboards or other wheeled boards of any size or type including non-Motorized Scooters.

Prohibited Personal Transportation Devices include the following:

- Segways and Hoverboards;
- Electronic skateboards;
- Golf carts and ATVs;
- Mopeds; and
- Any other motorized Personal Transportation Device.

Motorized Scooter-Share Program

- University may permit a Motorized Scooter-Share Program on the University campus, but University does not endorse, recommend, or promote the use of any Motorized Scooter-Share Program or Motorized Scooter-Share Operator.
- Any agreement a rider is required to enter into to participate in a Motorized Scooter-Share Program is solely between the Motorized Scooter-Share Operator and the rider; the University is not a party. Riders participate at their own risk and University assumes no liability for riders' who elect to participate in a Motorized Scooter-Share Program. Agreements between a Motorized Scooter-Share Operator and riders may contain provisions that can significantly limit riders' legal rights and may affect riders' ability to seek redress from the Motorized Scooter-Share Operator in the event of a dispute. Among other things, this agreement may limit riders' ability to prosecute a lawsuit against the Motorized Scooter-Share Operator and include provisions such as releases, disclaimers, and assumption-of-risk provisions, require binding arbitration and indicate choice of law and venue.

Exceptions

The following exceptions apply to this policy:

- University-owned transportation devices (examples: utility vehicles, UTV, ATV, golf cart, cargo van), which may only be used in the course of conducting official University business, may operate on University Sidewalks and streets;
- Bicycles can be ridden on Sidewalks and University-owned streets;

- Mopeds may operate only on University-owned streets and must be parked in parking lots; and
- Manually powered mobility aids such as walkers, crutches, canes, braces and power-driven mobility devices such as power wheelchairs or electric Scooters used by individuals with disabilities or for medical conditions.

Violations

Any violation of this policy may result in the confiscation of the transportation device by UNK Police and additional disciplinary actions as deemed necessary. Impounded transportation devices will be held by UNK Police for 30 days, and if unclaimed, will be sold at public auction.

Definitions

Bicycle – a pedal cycle designed to be propelled solely by human power

Dismount – the action required for a rider to become a pedestrian; a dismounted rider is one who is afoot and accompanied by a wheeled transportation device, which is being pushed, pulled or carried

In-line Skates – a type of roller skate with in-line wheels

Moped – a device with fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power, an automatic transmission and a motor with a cylinder capacity not exceeding 50 cc which produces no more than two brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the device at a maximum design speed of no more than 30 miles per hour on level ground (Neb. Rev. Stat. §60-637)

Motorized Bicycles – a bicycle with an attached motor or engine and transmission used either to power the vehicle unassisted, or to assist with pedaling

Motorized Scooter – any two or three-wheeled device that is equipped with handlebars, a floorboard designed for standing upon when riding, and powered by a motor of any type

Motorized Scooter-Share Operator – an individual or public, private, or non-profit entity and its affiliates that manages a Motorized Scooter-Share Program

Motorized Scooter-Share Program – a system of self-serve Motorized Scooters available for rental within the University Campus, operated by a Motorized Scooter-Share Operator, offering a pool of one or more self-serve Motorized Scooters for use in the public right-of-way within the University campus

Personal Transportation Devices – a device for transporting persons

Roller Skates – a shoe, or attachment for a shoe, with a set of wheels for skating

Scooter – a device with skate-type wheels with a low footboard between them, which is steered by a handlebar and is propelled solely by human power

Segways and Hoverboards– any self-balancing, non-tandem two wheeled device, designed to transport only one person and containing an electric propulsion system

Sidewalks – a paved pathway primarily utilized by pedestrians

Skateboard – a board of any length mounted on roller skate-type wheels designed to be propelled solely by human power

Additional Contacts

Subject	Contact	Phone	Email
Policy	Business Services	308-865-8448	christenmt2@unk.edu
Impounded Devices	UNK Police	308-865-8911	unkpd@unk.edu
ADA Accommodations	Disability Services Equity/Compliance	308-865-8214 308-865-8404	unkdso@unk.edu mendozalm2@unk.edu

Related Information

UNK Policy on Use of University Property

History

This policy replaces policy previously located within Business and Finance Policies and Procedures.